

REMARKS

Claims 1-138 were presented for examination and were pending in this application.

In a Final Office Action dated April 6, 2004, claim 7 was allowed, claim 4 was objected to, and claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 8-138 were rejected. Applicant thanks Examiner for examination of the claims pending in this application and addresses Examiner's comments below.

Applicant also thanks Examiner for the telephonic discussion on September 2, 2004, in which clarification was sought regarding whether U.S. Patent No. 6,072,537 to Gurner et al. ("Gurner") was appropriate prior art. Per that discussion, the substance of which is incorporated herein, Applicant reiterates that Gurner is not appropriate prior art.

In addition, Applicant herein amends claims 9, 20-23, 27, 31, 46, 50, 53, 54, 63, 65-67, 72, 82, 84-86, 93, 111, 120, and 130-133. These changes are believed not to introduce new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Each amended claim now recites "one from a group consisting of" rather than "one from a group comprising," as would be appropriate for a Markush-type claim recitation.

Because these claims have been amended to expedite the prosecution of the application in a manner consistent with the Patent Office Business Goals, 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (Sept. 8, 2000), Applicant has not and does not narrow the scope of the protection to which Applicant considers the claimed invention to be entitled and does not concede that the subject matter of such claims was in fact disclosed or taught by the cited prior art. Rather, Applicant reserves the right to pursue such protection at a later point in time and merely seeks to pursue protection for the subject matter presented in this submission.

Based on the above Amendment and the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections, and withdraw them.

Response to Examiner's Statement of Applicant's Arguments

In the 1st paragraph of the Office Action, Examiner states that Applicants arguments "have been fully considered but they are not persuasive." In particular, Applicants had argued (and continue to maintain as described below), that U.S. Patent No. 6,072,537 to Gurner et al. ("Gurner") was not pertinent prior art. Examiner noted that disagreed because from his "review of the parent application 08/399,013 [it] does not show adequate support for at least "the prerecorded video signals from the prerecorded storage medium have a video signal content prekeyed with a keying signal to indicate areas within the prerecorded video signal to be replaced by the user supplied video signals." Despite apparently having a copy of this parent application, Examiner requested furnishing of the parent application for further consideration. Hence, Applicant is attaching to this Amendment B and Response a copy of the original parent application specification.

As reviewed with Examiner in the telephonic discussion on September 2, 2004, and as articulated in Applicant's prior Response filed on November 24, 2003, Gurner is not relevant prior art under 35 USC § 102(e). Specifically, Applicant notes that Gurner has a filing and priority date of January 6, 1997. The present reissue application can claim priority to U.S. Patent Application serial number 08/399,013, filed March 6, 1995 ("Parent Application"), which is almost two years earlier than Gurner's filing date.¹

¹ The reissue application is based on U.S. Patent No. 6,072,933 to Green, ("Green"), which had U.S. Patent Application serial number 08/807,537, filed February 28, 1997, as was a continuation in part of U.S. Patent Application serial number 08/399,013, filed March 6, 1995.

Moreover, the claims of the present reissue application are supported by the specification of the Parent Application. For example, the claimed subject matter is supported throughout the specification of the Parent Application. *See e.g.*, U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 08/399,013 (“Parent Application”), p. 2 line 30 to p.10 line 36.

More particularly, the chart below outlines where support for the claims is found in the Parent Application:

<u>CLAIM</u>	<u>PARENT APPLICATION (08/399,013)</u>
Claims 1, 7	Supported in the Parent Application at, for example, p. 3, line 31 to p. 3, line 31, p. 4 line 14 to p. 5 line 34, and Figures 1-3
Claims 2	Supported in the Parent Application at, for example, p. 6, lines 13-25 and Figure 2
Claims 3, 5	Supported in the Parent Application at, for example, p. 2, line 31 to p. 4, line 3, p. 4 line 14 to p. 5 line 34, and Figures 1-2
Claims 4	Supported in the Parent Application at, for example, p. 4, lines 23-30, p. 6, lines 10-13, p. 8, lines 6 to p. 9, line 18, and Figures 2, 3
Claims 6	Supported in the Parent Application at, for example, p. 9, line 35 to p. 10, line 36 and Figures 2, 3.
Claims 9, 20, 46, 54, 65, 72, 84, 111 120, 131	Supported in the Parent Application at, for example, p. 3, line 33 to p. 4, line 3, p. 4, lines 14-22, p. 10, lines 12-21 and Figure 1
Claims 12, 57, 75-76, 124	Supported in the Parent Application at, for example, p. 6, lines 6-10 and Figure 2
Claims 13, 58, 77, 125	Supported in the Parent Application at, for example, p. 8 lines 32-36
Claims 17, 18, 27, 29, 30, 45, 60-62, 79, 81, 93, 95-96, 127-129,	Supported in the Parent Application at, for example, p. 6 lines 13 to p. 7 line 10
Claims 19, 64, 83	Supported in the Parent Application at, for example at p. 5 line 35 to p. 6 line 6
Claims 20, 46, 65, 84, 131	Supported in the Parent Application at, for example, at p. 3 line 6 and p. 5 lines 31-33

Claims 22, 66, 86, 133	Supported at, for example, at p. 7 lines 26-27
Claims 23, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 67, 87-90, 101-105, 108, 134-137	Supported at, for example, p. 6 line 35 to p. 7, line 4 and 7 line 26 to p. 8, line 20
Claims 49, 50, 68, 116	Supported at, for example, p. 5, line 14 and p. 10 lines 12-36

The chart above illustrates that the claims are supported throughout the specification of the Parent Application. Applicant also notes that the citations provided above are merely examples and are not intended to represent an all-inclusive exhaustive list of all supporting bases in the specification for these pending claims.

In view of the support found in the Parent Application for claims pending in this reissue application, Applicant respectfully submits that Gurner is not appropriate prior art. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn. In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are patentable in view of all other art cited in this application.

Response to Rejection Under 35 USC 102(e)

In the 4th paragraph of the Office Action, Examiner rejects claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 10-15, 17-27, 29-33, 36-37, 40-45, 47-53, 55-60, 62-71, 73-79, 81-93, 95-105, 108, 112-119, 121-127, and 129-138 under 35 USC § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Gurner. This rejection is now traversed because Gurner is not appropriate prior art as described above.

Response to Rejection Under 35 USC 103(a) in View of Gurner, Block and Yamashita

In the 6th paragraph of the Office Action, Examiner rejects claims 2, 6, 28, 94, and 128 under 35 USC § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable in view of Gurner and U.S. Patent No. 4,688,105 to Bloch et al. (“Bloch”). This rejection is now traversed because Gurner is not appropriate prior art as described above and would not be an appropriate

reference to combine with Bloch. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests removal of the basis for the rejection and allowance of these claims at this time.

In the 7th paragraph of the Office Action, Examiner rejects claims 9, 46, 54, 72, 111, and 120 under 35 USC § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable in view of Gurner. This rejection is now traversed because Gurner is not appropriate prior art as described above. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests removal of the basis for the rejection and allowance of these claims at this time.

In the 8th paragraph of the Office Action, Examiner rejects claims 16, 34-35, 38-39, 61, 80, 106-107, and 109-110 under 35 USC § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable in view of Gurner, in view of Bloch and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,016,113 to Yamashita et al. ("Yamashita"). This rejection is now traversed because Gurner is not appropriate prior art as described above, and would not be an appropriate reference to combine with Bloch or Yamashita. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests removal of the basis for the rejection and allowance of these claims at this time.

Conclusion

Applicant has added new claims 9 through 138 for which Applicant requests consideration and examination. Applicant respectfully submits that these are supported by the specification of the reissue specification as well as its Parent Application and are commensurate within the scope of protection to which Applicant believes they are entitled.

Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 through 138, as presented herein, are patentably distinguishable over the applicable cited references (including references cited, but not applied). Therefore, Applicant requests reconsideration of the basis for the rejections to these claims and request allowance of them.

In addition, Applicant once again thank Examiner for allowance of claim 7.

Applicant respectfully invites Examiner to contact Applicant's representative at the number provided below if Examiner believes it will help expedite furtherance of this application.

Respectfully Submitted,
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Date: September 7, 2004

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PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO.

08/399013

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
FEE RECORD SHEET

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BAR CODE LABEL		U.S. PATENT APPLICATION			
		FILING DATE	CLASS	GROUP ART UNIT	
SERIAL NUMBER 08/399,013		03/06/95	358	2615	
APPLICANT	DAVID GREEN, NORTH YORK, CANADA.				
	CONTINUING DATA*** VERIFIED				
FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATIONS*** VERIFIED					
***** SMALL ENTITY *****					
STATE OR COUNTRY	Sheets Drawing	Total Claims	Independent Claims	Filing Fee Received	Attorney Docket No.
CAX	2	5	3	\$365.00	GREDA/1A/916
ADDRESS	RICHARD A R PARSONS RIDOUT & MAYBEE SUITE 2300 101 RICHMOND STREET WEST TORONTO ONTARIO M5H 2J7 CANADA				AIR MAIL
TITLE	SYSTEM FOR PRODUCING PERSONALIZED VIDEO RECORDINGS				
This is to certify that annexed hereto is a true copy from the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the application which is identified above. By authority of the COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS					
Date		Certifying Officer			



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W/399013 A



SYSTEM FOR PRODUCING PERSONALIZED VIDEO RECORDINGS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to the production of
5 personalized video recordings, in which a user can combine
the users own video signal with a prerecorded video signal
to provide a composite recording, personalized by the
addition of the user's own material.

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REVIEW OF THE ART

So called video karaoke systems are well known in
which a video recording is provided, with the video display
overlaid by text indicating the words of a song, usually
with some form of marker to indicate the synchronization of
15 the words of the song with a musical accompaniment recorded
on the sound channel or channels of the video recording.
This enables persons viewing the recording to "sing along"
with the musical accompaniment.

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It is also well known to produce composite video
signals by overlaying one signal on another, utilizing one
of several keying techniques of which those known as
chroma-keying and luminance keying are the most common. In
chroma-keying, essential elements of a foreground scene,
25 typically a person or persons, are imaged against a
background having a higher level of saturation of a
particular colour than is likely to occur in the foreground
objects. Typically an intense blue background is utilized,
but other colours may be used provided that, in the
30 particular application, they enable the foreground and
background to be reliably differentiated by signal
processing circuitry. An alternative approach is known as
luminance keying, in which it is arranged that the
luminance level of the background against which the
35 foreground objects are imaged is consistently and
detectably lower than that of the wanted foreground
objects. During the combination process, boundaries

between the foreground objects and the background are detected on the basis of the above-mentioned difference in colour content or luminance level, so as to produce a switching signal which switches a second video signal, 5 synchronized with the first, into the background areas. These techniques are well known and understood in the art.

In United States Patent No. 5,099,337 (Cury) it is proposed to provide a selection of background audio and 10 video recordings which can be selected from separate libraries and combined with foreground audio and video signals provided by a user, so as to enable the user to provide customized video recordings in which the user's own foreground images and audio signals are superimposed upon 15 selected background audio and video signals. This in effect provides a system in which the user, as well as providing a foreground audio signal, also provides a foreground video signal, and is provided with means for recording the result. A performer performs in front of a 20 blue screen, so that the performer's image may be chroma-keyed into the background video signal, thus providing the illusion that the performer is performing in the selected background. During performance, prompt information is provided to a performer through a prompt monitor from a 25 prerecorded prompt library.

A limitation of such systems is that, by their nature, they can only provide background for a user's performance.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In its broadest aspect, the present invention relates to a system in which a prerecorded video signal is prekeyed to define background areas which, on playback by a user of a recording medium carrying the keyed signal on apparatus 35 configured to recognize the prekeyed background areas, will generate a signal into which may be inserted, in those background areas, a local signal provided by the user,

which need not itself be keyed.

The present invention further seeks to provide a system in which a keyed video prerecording is used to 5 provide a prerecorded signal which is combined with a user provided background signal to provide a final recording, the prerecording including prompt channel, which can be suppressed in the final recording, to assist a user and/or a user's equipment to provide a background signal 10 compatible with the prerecorded signal.

According to the invention, there is provided a system for the production of video signals, comprising a playback device for playing back prerecorded video and audio signals 15 from a prerecorded storage medium, a source of user supplied video and audio signals, a video and audio mixer for combining the prerecorded and user supplied signal to provide combined video and audio outputs, a production monitor connected to the mixer to display to the user the 20 mixed signals, and a storage or reproduction device receiving a mixed video signal output from the mixer, wherein the prerecorded storage medium stores, as well as a video channel and at least one audio channel, at least one prompting channel, the video signals stored on the 25 prerecorded medium being prekeyed to indicate areas to be overlaid in the mixer by the user supplied video signals, and the mixer being operative to convert signals from the prompting channel into production control signals. Typically the production control signals include prompts 30 displayed on the production monitor but absent from the combined video output.

The invention extends to a recording medium providing multiple channels of information, including a video 35 channel, a least one audio channel, and at least one prompting channel, the video channel being recorded with a video signal prekeyed to indicate picture areas available

for overlay by a user provided video signal, and the prompting channel including data translatable into instructions for control of the user provided video signal.

5 SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a simplified block diagram of the system:

Figure 2 is a simplified block diagram of a mixer unit used in the system.

10 Figure 3 is a more detailed block diagram of an exemplary mixer unit.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring to Figure 1, which has been simplified by omitting any consideration of sound as opposed to video channels, a prerecorded tape or video disk, generically referred to as a prerecording 2, is replayed to provide a foreground video signal upon which a user signal may be overlaid using chroma or luminance keying or any other system enabling effective identification of areas of the recorded image available for overlay by a user signal (henceforward generically referred to as "keying"). It should be understood that the keying signal, whatever form it takes, for example a high saturation of blue, or a very low luminance level, is already built into the prerecording 2 so as to predefine those areas of the prerecorded signal 4 available for overlay by user provided video signals: the user provided signals will not usually themselves be keyed, and if they are keyed, it will be for purposes extraneous to the present invention. The prerecorded tape also preferably carries, as well the video signal channel, at least one audio channel for audio signals, and at least one prompting channel 6 for prompting signals prompting of instructing the user and/or the users equipment so as to assist in rendering the content of the user provided signal compatible with the foreground content of the prerecording. Prompts to the user may include text prompts, e.g. the

words of a song and/or stage directions, or position of dimension indicators to assist the user in controlling direction or zooming of a video camera providing the user signal.

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Thus a controllable user video source, usually a camera 8 (or one of multiple selectable cameras) has a signal output 10 to a mixer 12 which combines the video signals by inserting the user signal output 10 in those 10 areas of the prerecorded signal 4 which are identified by the keying, or by mixing the user signal with the prerecorded signal, depending upon the effect desired. The superimposition provided by mixing may be useful for some applications for example training videos. The prompting 15 signals on channel 6 are translated by the mixer 12 into signals displayed on a user monitor 14 so that a user may control the camera 8, or sing (or otherwise perform) along with a prerecorded artist; or the user monitor may implement a camera control function (for example a power 20 zoom control) which is applied directly to the camera to control its input to the mixer 12, which replaces the keyed portions of the signal from the prerecording 2 with the signal 10 from the camera 8. It is however preferred that zooming be performed electronically within the mixer, 25 because of the lack of standardization of camera controls. The signals 4 and 10 must of course be synchronized to a common set of scanning signals before combination. This is preferably achieved as discussed below with reference to Figure 3, but in an alternative arrangement the camera 8 30 receives a signal via control 14 which synchronizes it to the signal 6 from the prerecorded source. The output signal from the mixer 12 is passed to a suitable recorder and/or display 16.

35 Referring now to Figure 2, this shows schematically one embodiment of the mixer 12 in somewhat more detail. Video inputs 4 (including the signal 6) and 10 (in this

case two selectable user inputs 10 are shown) are applied to a timebase control unit 20 which ensures synchronization between the video signals, preferably by applying them to synchronized frame memories as described below, since this 5 requires no feedback control of the timing of either input signal. A level switching circuit 22 responds to the keying signal extracted from the signal 4 to switch between levels of the signals 4 and 10 and thus provide a combined video output signal 24 to the recorder and/or display 16 10 (Figure 1). For full keying the different levels of the two signals a full/zero and zero/full respectively, but other level combinations can be utilized with suitable digital mixing technology, in a manner known per se. The video output signal is also applied, in this embodiment, to 15 a closed caption decoder 28 which extracts control signals and which are encoded into an available channel in the prerecording 2, in this case that portion of the video interval between frames normally reserved for closed captioning. The control signals are overlaid on a video 20 signal 26 sent to the monitor 14 (Figure 1), so as to provide directions (either text prompts or instructions or positioning marks) to the user of the system so that the user may "sing along" or otherwise perform in synchronization with the prerecorded signal, or exercise 25 suitable control over the camera 8. The signal 26 may also be decoded to provide a camera control output, for example a zoom control signal. The mixer 12 typically also incorporates an audio effects and mixer unit 30 which receives and mixes inputs from an audio channel or channels 30 32 from the prerecording 2, inputs from an audio channel or channels 34 from a user microphone or microphones, and provides an output audio channel or channels at 36 to the monitor 14 and at 38 to the recorder 16.

35 Referring now to Figure 3, one version of the mixer 12 is shown in more detail. It should be understood that, in the main, the mixer 12 shown in Figure 3 is similar to

known digital video mixers incorporating chroma or luminance keying facilities except that it responds additionally to an additional prompt channel included in the prerecorded video input 4. Typically the closed 5 caption channel, the data for which is encoded into certain lines of the video signal in the vertical interval outside of the normally displayed area, is used to convey prompt messages and control data to the system, and thus a closed caption decoder 100 is incorporated into the mixer 12 to 10 recover this data. Such decoders are well understood in the art and need not be described further.

The mixer operates under control of a microcomputer 102 including appropriate working memory. An example of a 15 suitable device is the 87C752 from Intel Corporation, and in general it controls the mixer in a manner similar to that of known video mixers. Accordingly, the mixer will be described primarily with a view to explaining how it differs from conventional digital video mixers, such as the 20 MX-1 digital video mixer from Videonics (although it should be understood that many of the functions provided by such mixers are not essential to the present application and may be omitted to reduce costs), and so as to explain its relationship to the essential functions of the invention.

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The video input 4 from the prerecorded source 2 may be either composite or S-video. In the latter case the video chroma and luminance signals are applied to separate analog to digital converters 104, 106 under control of a clock 30 generator 108 which also controls a decoder 110 passing digital Y (luminance) and U and V (chrominance) signals to a frame memory 112 under control of a video memory write controller 114. If a composite video signal is provided, it is applied to the converter 106 and converter 104 is not 35 used.

Similarly, the input 10 from the camera 8 is applied

to A/D converters 124 and 126, or converter 124 only if a composite signal, under control of a clock generator 128 also controlling a decoder 130 passing signal to a memory 132 under control of controller 134.

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A synchronized memory read controller 140 reads the contents of the memories 112 and 132 in synchronism under control of the microcomputer 102, the Y, U and V signals read from the memories being selected by a multiplexer 142, 10 under control of a luminance or color keyer 144 itself controlled by signals read from the memory 112. When the selected keying signal, be it luminance or chroma, is present at a level denoting background, then the keyer causes the multiplexer 142 to pass at least part of the 15 signals derived from input 10 and block at least part of the signals from input 4; otherwise it passes at least part of the signals derived from input 4 and blocks at least part of the signals derived from input 10. By this means signals from the camera input 10 are inserted into the 20 keyed portions of the video input 4.

The Y (luminance) signal derived from the video input 4 is also passed to the closed caption decoder 100, which 25 decodes the closed caption data in conventional manner to recover data contained therein and pass it to microcomputer 102 which interprets the data and either forwards it to a conventional overlay generator 146 and/or generates signals applied on a line 148 to control zooming (for example) of camera 8, and/or to the scaler 162 or interpolator 160 30 discussed below, if provided.

The Y, U and V signals from multiplexer 142 are passed to output encoders 150 and 152 under control of an output 35 clock and synchronization separator 158, providing the video outputs 24 and 26 via amplifiers and filters 154 and 156, the V signal to encoder 152 being overlaid by text or video regenerated by the overlay generator 146 so that

control instructions are passed to the user monitor 14.

The microcomputer 102 may control additional optional processing circuits between the multiplexer 142 and the 5 encoders 150 and 152, these being of types known in digital video mixers; in this case there is shown a zoom interpolator 160, a scaler 162 controlled by a clock generator 164, and a lower bit switch 166. The zoom interpolator and scaler provide an electronic zoom effect 10 which is preferred to optical zoom controlled by the line 48. The electronic zoom interpolator and scaler will act on the combined signal, and not just the local camera input as would an optical zoom. The lower bit switch 166 can be activated in known manner to provide a posterization 15 effect. The interpolater 160 and scaler 162 may also be configured to be controlled manually by the user, since they act conjointly on the prerecorded and user provided signals.

20 Audio inputs 32 from local microphones are processed by potentiometer 168, preamplifiers 170, mixer 172, and a master potentiometer 174 before being applied to an A/D converter 176 while audio inputs associated with the prerecorded video signal are applied to A/D converters 278, 25 the outputs from the A/D converters 176 and 178 being combined and optionally processed by a digital signal processor 180 in known manner under control of microcomputer 102. The processed digital audio signals are then passed through digital to analog converters 182 and 30 preamplifiers 184 to the outputs 36 and 38.

The programming of microcomputer 102 has not been described, since except for any processing of the signals from the closed caption decoder 100, it is similar to that 35 for known digital mixers. Processing by microcomputer 102 of closed caption data merely consist of intercepting data encoded on the closed option line 20 which provides control

signals for passage by the microcomputer to the output 148 or the processing circuits 160, 162 and 166.

In use, the mixer 12 will operate much like a conventional digital video mixer, except that the keying function controlled by the keying signal in the input 4 is a default function, and control signals or messages in the closed caption field of the input 4 are decoded and output either as video overlays on the monitor 14 or as camera or mixer control signals.

It will therefore be appreciated that a user's local generated video (and audio) signals may be combined with the video input from a prerecorded tape or disc to provide video and audio outputs in which user contributed images and sounds are combined with those on the prerecorded tape to provide a composite output in which prerecorded images are inserted into images provided by the user so that for example a famous singing star may appear to be performing together with a user in the user's own home or the user's choice of surroundings. The control or prompting channel, for example closed captions appearing on the monitor 14, may provide on screen prompts to a user, which are invisible on the output passed to a recorder 16, either in the form of words, or indicators indicating how the user should place a locally generated image on the screen. This channel may also carry data which can be converted by the microcomputer 102 into data output on the line 148 in the form of camera control signals, for example to control of a zoom function of the camera 8. Unlike prior systems, the user does not need to perform against a blue screen or other means to generate keying of the user signal, since the keying is prerecorded into the prerecorded foreground signal. Such prerecorded, prekeyed signals have numerous potential applications of which those discussed above are merely exemplary.

CLAIMS:

~~SUB A~~ A system for the production of video signals, comprising a playback device for playing back prerecorded video and audio signals from a prerecorded storage medium, 5 a source of user supplied video and audio signals, a video and audio mixer for combining the prerecorded and user supplied signals to provide combined video and audio outputs, a production monitor connected to the mixer to display to the user the mixed signals, and a storage or 10 reproduction device receiving a mixed video signal output from the mixer, wherein the prerecorded storage medium stores, as well as a video channel and at least one audio channel, at least one prompting channel, the video signals stored on the prerecorded medium being prekeyed to indicate 15 areas to be overlaid in the mixer by the user supplied video signals, and the mixer being operative to convert signals from the prompting channel into production control signals.

20 2. A system according to claim 1, wherein the control signals include user prompts displayed on the production monitor but absent from the combined video output.

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3. A recording medium providing multiple channels of 25 information including a video channel, at least one audio channel, and at least one prompting channel, the video channel being recorded with a video signal prekeyed to indicate picture areas available for overlay by a user provided video signal, and the prompting channel including 30 data translatable into instructions for control of the user provided video signal.

4. A recording medium according to claim 3, wherein the data in the prompting channel is translatable into video 35 data optionally overlayable on video data from said video channel.

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5. A recording medium carrying a prerecorded video signal, prekeyed to define background areas which video signal, on playback by a user of the recording medium in apparatus configured to recognize the prekeyed background areas, will generate a signal into which may be inserted, at least in those background areas, a local signal provided by the user.



ABSTRACT

08/399,013

A system for the production of video signals includes a playback device for playing back prerecorded video and audio signals from a prerecorded storage medium, a source 5 of user supplied video and audio signals, a video and audio mixer for combining the prerecorded and user supplied signals to provide combined video and audio outputs, a production monitor connected to the mixer to display to the user the mixed signals, and a storage or reproduction 10 device receiving a mixed video signal output from the mixer. The prerecorded storage medium, wherein the prerecorded storage medium stores, as well as a video channel and at least one audio channel, at least one prompting channel, the video signals stored on the 15 prerecorded medium being prekeyed to indicate areas to be overlaid in the mixer by the user supplied video signals, and the mixer being operative to convert signals from the prompting channel into production control signals.



Applicant or Patentee: MR. DAVID GREEN Attorney's
Serial or Patent No.: _____ Docket No. _____
Filed or Issued: _____ OUR REF: _____
For: SYSTEM FOR PRODUCING PERSONALIZED
VIDEO RECORDINGS
VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR



As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled SYSTEM FOR PRODUCING PERSONALIZED VIDEO RECORDINGS described in

the specification filed herewith
 appl'n. serial No. _____, filed _____
 patent No. _____, issued _____

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

no such person, concern, or organization
 persons, concerns or organizations listed below

'NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

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FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

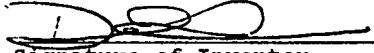
INDIVIDUAL SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of

entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

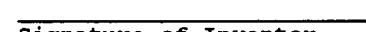
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

DAVID GREEN
NAME OF INVENTOR


Signature of Inventor

Date

NAME OF INVENTOR


Signature of Inventor

Date



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DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that :

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled SYSTEM FOR PRODUCING PERSONALIZED VIDEO RECORDINGS, the specification of which

Check is attached hereto.
(One)

was filed on _____
Application Serial No. _____
and was amended on _____

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority
Claimed

Yes No

(Number) (Country) (Day/Month/Year Filed)

Yes No

(Number) (Country) (Day/Month/Year Filed)

Yes No

(Number) (Country) (Day/Month/Year Filed)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application :

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (Patented, pending, abandoned)
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POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint G.P. Orleans (Registration No. 26,141), A.L. Grove (Registration No. 17,829), P.E. McArdle (Registration No. 26,138), R.A.R. Parsons (Registration No. 28,159), P.K. Holland (Registration No. 28,174), J.R. Lake (Registration No. 31,081), R.S. Mitchell (Registration No. 31,228), and R.G. Hiron (Registration No. 24,666) telephone No. (416) 868-1482 as my attorneys or agents to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent and all correspondence relating to this application, and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and the said attorneys or agents are hereby given full power of substitution and revocation.

Address all correspondence and telephone calls to :

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Canada

Telephone : (416) 868-1482

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that wilful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such wilful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

DAVID GREEN
Full name of sole or first
inventor

Full name of second
inventor

DAVID GREEN
Inventor's Signature

Inventor's Signature

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Date Citizenship

Date Citizenship

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Post Office Address

Post Office Address

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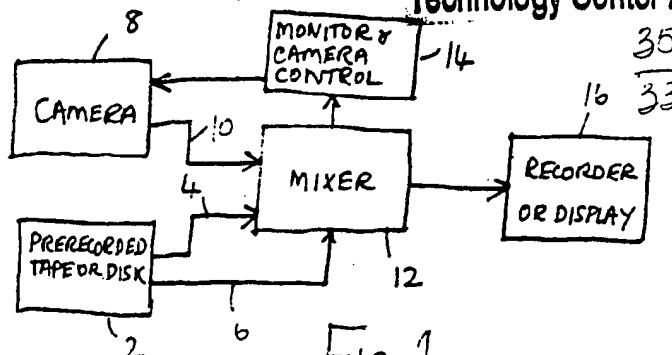


FIG 1

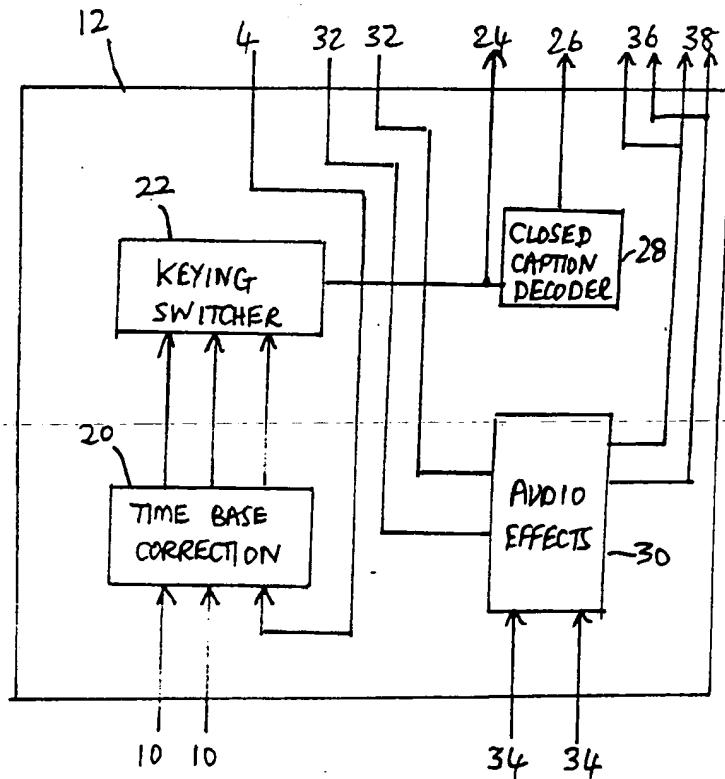


FIG 2

358/335, 343, 310, 341, 34
 360/3301, 72.2

5442, 456

Dave H. [Signature]

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FIG 3

